

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 FBO-02 /023 W

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P R 100130Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1950

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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FOR EA/EX: SCARRITT FROM OLMSTED

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP ACOM ASEC

SUBJ: FUNDING FOR GENERATOR HOUSE AT CHANCERY

REF: A) STATE 288047, B) STATE 280329, C) PORT MORESBY 1281,  
D) PORT MORESBY 1242

1. I HAVE REVIEWED SUBJECT OF DEVELOPMENT OF REAR OF CHANCERY LOT AND BELIEVE THAT SERIOUS MISUNDERSTANDINGS HAVE RESULTED FROM REF C). NONE OF THE DOLS 10,260 REQUESTED FOR THE GENERATOR HOUSE WILL BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN GENERATOR HOUSE, AND ANCILLARY WORK (PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF 1,000 GAL FUEL TANK AND INSTALLATION OF CONDUIT FROM GENERATOR TO CHANCERY POWER PANEL AND FUEL LINE AS INDICATED IN REF D)). WE HAVE NEVER INTENDED TO USE ANY OF THOSE FUNDS FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THOSE INDICATED IN REF D). ALTHOUGH THE COST MAY SEEM HIGH, THIS TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION WITH CONCRETE-FILLED MASONRY BLOCK REINFORCED WITH REBAR GRID IS NOT CUSTOMARY HERE AND HENCE THE COSTS ARE HIGHER THAN YOU MIGHT EXPECT. MY STAFF INFORMS ME THAT HOLDA BELIEVED THIS TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION WAS APPROPRIATE FOR THE GENERATOR HOUSE AND THAT THE COSTS ARE UNDERSTANDABLE IN LIGHT OF THE HIGH GENERAL PRICE LEVEL HERE.

2. GENERATOR HOUSE WILL HAVE JOINT WALL WITH STOREROOM BUT WE ARE CAREFULLY ALLOCATING COSTS SO THAT GENERATOR

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HOUSE WILL BE BILLED ONLY FOR THOSE COSTS WHICH ARE IN

EXCESS OF COST OF WALL OF STOREROOM. THIS EXCESS OF COSTS IS DUE TO HEAVIER REINFORCING FOR GENERATOR HOUSE.

3. DESCRIPTION OF BUILDING AS TWO-STORY IS MISLEADING. GENERATOR ROOM WILL HAVE FLAT TOP. WE HAD INTENDED PLACING SMALL WOODEN STRUCTURE ON THAT FLAT TOP TO PROVIDE ONE ROOM EACH FOR GARDENER AT RESIDENCE AND FOR AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER, BOTH SINGLE MEN. IT WILL BE A TEMPORARY, EASILY DEMOLISHED STRUCTURE. THESE LOW-PAID EMPLOYEES AT PRESENT HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY IN FINDING HOUSING ANYWHERE NEARBY AND THEIR USEFULNESS TO US IS SEVERELY CURTAILED IF THEY MUST LIVE TEN MILES OUT OF CITY. SECURITY OF CHANCERY WILL BE ENHANCED BY HAVING THESE MEN RESIDE ON PROPERTY. THERE WILL NOT BE SPACE FOR THIS SIMPLE STRUCTURE ELSEWHERE ON PROPERTY. THIS BUILDING IS AT BOTTOM OF STEEPLY SLOPING LOT IN FLAT AREA CREATED BY 15-FOOT RETAINING WALL PROVIDED LANDLORD. AREA ABOVE RETAINING WALL IS TO BE USED FOR USIS EXHIBITION SPACE, OUTDOOR FILM SHOWINGS, ETC, AND WE CANNOT PUT THESE QUARTERS THERE.

4. I HOPE THIS INFORMATION WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY RESUMPTION OF WORK ON GENERATOR HOUSE.  
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